

Bill 59

Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name Yuri Cardenas
 Phone 5109101142
 Email yurichop@gmail.com
 Meeting Date 10-05-2016
 Council/PH Council
 Committee
 Agenda Item Bill 59
 Your position on the matter Support
 Representing Self
 Organization
 Do you wish to speak at the hearing? No

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Raising the minimum thickness of any Reusable bag supplied at checkout to 4 mils (4/1000th of an inch) - as in Portland and Austin- makes it cost prohibitive for retailers to give out thicker single-use bags and call them reusable. This still allows for legitimate recycled plastic reusable bags like Chico bags and many other brands, but not the sham single-use ones seen across Honolulu.

Written
Testimony

We have encouraged the inclusion of "non-film plastic" as part of the definition of "reusable bag." This further limits retailers ability to get around the spirit of the bill, by not handing out so-called biodegradable bags, that break down quickly into thousands of micro plastics.

More than 400 marine species and half of all sea turtles have ingested or become entangled in plastics. In Hawaii, these include the Laysan albatross, Hawaiian hawksbill sea turtles, monk seals and many endangered species. All seven species of sea turtles have been affected, and they often mistake plastic bags for jellyfish and the bags clog their intestines.

Testimony
Attachment

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